

Title:

The AIDS and Cancer Specimen Resource (ACSR)

(Reissued Open Competition RFA)

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Objective of Project/Program:

The objective is to continue the NCI sponsored AIDS and Cancer Specimen Resource (ACSR). The primary goal of the ACSR is to meet the specimen needs of clinician and basic researchers in HIV-associated malignancies by acquiring, storing and equitably distributing tumor tissues and biological fluids from patients with HIV-associated malignancies.

Description of Project:

There are 34 million people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) in the world and HIV-associated malignancies are a leading cause of morbidity and mortality in PLWHA. Collections of specimens from the United States and across the globe, that represent various populations, treatment regimens and eras of the HIV epidemic, will facilitate research directed towards identifying potential genetic, viral, and environmental co-factors contributing to the development of malignancies in the context of HIV. Beyond its repository role, the ACSR also serves as the AIDS Malignancy Clinical Trials Consortium (AMC) Biorepository. The existing group of three Regional Biospecimen Repositories (RBRs) and a Central Operations and Data Coordinating Center (CODCC) have established a strong infrastructure and a large collection of HIV-associated malignancy specimens, many with associated clinical data.

Resource applicants must propose an efficient, effective and well coordinated program to achieve the primary goals of the resource. The applicant must encourage involvement of a number of investigators and coordinate a cooperative approach to more targeted specimen procurement efforts. The applicant should also encourage activities that will attract more users and facilitate distribution of specimens. The resource covered by the FOA is designed to be a complimentary program to the AMC and a number of NCI funded HIV-associated malignancy initiatives. The applicant must demonstrate that they are capable of performing biorepository functions for the AMC. They must also demonstrate that they are active in the AIDS-related malignancy field and are capable of serving this community in a highly effective and scientifically knowledgeable manner.